

## APPLICANT'S REMARKS

Applicant has amended the claims to more particularly point out and distinctly claim the invention under 35 U.S.C. § 112. The term “panel holding” is deleted from claims 1, 6, and 8. The word “sufficiently” has been changed to read “has a sufficient amount of rigidity” to overcome the objection to claim 3, line 2. Amended claim 1 now recites “reinforcement rod suspending means including a plurality of grid elements each having a plurality of rods that extend vertically along and substantially parallel to the vertically disposed molding surfaces with each element having a plurality of tie means that are connected to the vertically disposed rods and extend substantially perpendicular to the molding surfaces for freely positioning and retaining freely disposed, horizontally extending reinforcement rods.”

Amended claim 6 now recites “reinforcement rod suspending means for freely positioning and retaining freely disposed, horizontally extending reinforcement rods at a preselected horizontal location spaced inwardly from each said opposed molding surface within said mold cavity,” and “said rod suspending means including a plurality of grid elements that extend vertically along the vertically disposed molding surfaces and between the opposed molding surfaces, each grid element including a plurality of tie members that are substantially perpendicular to the molding surfaces and horizontally disposed at spaced preselected vertical locations, and said grid elements including rod locating means for maintaining said reinforcement rods at said vertical locations and horizontally spaced inwardly from each said opposed molding surface while hardenable material is being poured into said mold cavity.”

Amended claim 8 now recites “reinforcement rod suspending means for freely positioning and retaining freely disposed, horizontally extending reinforcement rods at a preselected horizontal

location spaced inwardly from each said opposed molding surface within said mold cavity, and means for attaching said rod suspending means to said opposed wall forming panels for locating said horizontally disposed rods at spaced preselected vertical locations between said spaced molding surfaces, said rod suspending means being effective to retain said reinforcement rods in place at said preselected horizontal and vertical locations while said hardenable material is being poured into and allowed to harden within said mold cavity, said reinforcement rods including at least two elongate rod members each freely positioned horizontally at a spaced inward distance from the opposed molding surfaces and at a spaced outward distance from a centerline located between said opposed molding surfaces.”

#### The Argument

Claims 1 and 3-8 are rejected as being anticipated by the Wepf ‘156 patent that discloses a plurality of novel tie bars 10 having a structural configuration that holds a pair of grids 16 and 18 having **connected** vertical and horizontal reinforcement rods that are both parallel to the molding surfaces of the forms 12 and 14. So the horizontal rods are not “freely disposed, horizontally extending reinforcement rods” as specifically required by Applicant’s claims. Applicant’s claimed “tie means . . . are connected to the vertically disposed rods and extend substantially perpendicular to the molding surfaces” in claim 1. Applicant’s claimed structure includes “a plurality of grid elements that extend vertically along the vertically disposed molding surfaces and between the opposed molding surfaces.” Each grid element includes “a plurality of tie members that are substantially perpendicular to the molding surfaces” and the “grid elements [include] rod locating means for maintaining said reinforcement rods at said vertical locations and horizontally spaced inwardly from each said opposed molding surface while hardenable material is being poured into

said mold cavity.”


Wepf does not disclose the use of a plurality of grid elements that extend vertically with each grid element having rod locating means for positioning and retaining freely, horizontally disposed reinforcement rods at a plurality of preselected vertical and horizontal locations as now set forth in Applicant’s independent claims. Wepf discloses a very intricate tie member that cannot be two things in Applicant’s claims as the examiner applies the reference to the claimed invention. The “means for vertically disposing laterally spaced wall forming panels to provide said molding surfaces along opposed sides of said wall mold cavity” comprises the applicant’s upwardly extending wall section 21. Wepf discloses nothing like this.

Wepf does *not* disclose “freely disposed reinforcement rod means.” For Wept’s horizontally disposed reinforcement rods are connected to the vertical rods in his grids 16 and 18, and are both substantially parallel to the molding surfaces. Applicant’s horizontal tie members are connected to the vertical rods and are substantially perpendicular to the molding surfaces. There is no way that the Wepf structure anticipates the applicant’s claimed structure in his claims 1 and 3-8.

No other cited prior art discloses such a grid element feature nor any other teaching that would lead one having ordinary skill in the art to produce Applicant’s invention.

For the foregoing reasons, allowance of claims 1 and 3-8 is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,  
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